

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following listing of the claims replaces all earlier listings and all earlier versions.

1. - 30. (Cancelled).

31. (Previously presented) A system for enabling a user to submit an image to be printed directly on a confectionery product, comprising:

a first computer adapted to receive image data from the user and communicate the image data over a network;

a second computer, adapted to communicate with the first computer, the second computer being adapted to receive the transmitted image data over the network;
and

an ink-jet printer adapted to receive the image data from the second computer and print directly on a confectionery product a high quality image that corresponds to the received image data.

32. (Original) A system according to Claim 31, wherein the network is the Internet and the first computer is a client computer operable to run Web browser software adapted to send and receive Hypertext Markup Language (HTML) forms over the World Wide Web.

33. (Original) A system according to Claim 31, wherein the network is a local area network.

34. (Previously Presented) A system according to Claim 31, wherein the ink-jet printer prints on the confectionery product using a dispersed pigment food-grade ink to obtain a printed image having resolution greater than 200 dpi even if printed using a single printhead and single pass printing.

35. (Original) A system according to Claim 34, wherein the ink-jet printer is a drop-on-demand ink-jet printer.

36. (Currently Amended) A system according to Claim 34, wherein the printed image has a resolution between 300 dpi and 1200 dpi.

37. (Previously Presented) A method for use on a system for enabling a user to submit an image to be printed directly on a confectionery product, the system including a first computer, a second computer structured to communicate over a network with the first computer, and an ink-jet printer, structured to communicate with the second computer, the method comprising:

(a) the first computer receiving image data from the user and communicating the image data over a network to the second computer;

(b) the second computer receiving the communicated image data over the network from the first computer; and

(c) the ink-jet printer receiving the image data from the second computer and printing directly on the confectionery product a high quality image that corresponds to the received image data.

38. (Original) A method according to Claim 37, wherein the network is the Internet and the first computer is a client computer, step (a) being executed by operations of Web browser software operating on the first computer and adapted to send and receive Hypertext Markup Language (HTML) forms to and from the second computer over the World Wide Web.

39. (Original) A method according to Claim 37, wherein the network is a local area network.

40. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 37, wherein in step (c) the ink-jet printer prints on the confectionery product using a dispersed pigment food-grade ink to obtain a printed image having resolution greater than 200 dpi even if printed using a single printhead and single pass printing.

41. (Original) A method according to Claim 40, wherein the ink-jet printer is a drop-on-demand ink-jet printer.

42. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 40, wherein the printed image has a resolution between 300 dpi and 1200 dpi.

43. (Previously Presented) A system for enabling a user to submit, over the Internet, an image to be printed directly on a confectionery product, comprising:

a client computer adapted to receive image data from the user and communicate the image data over the Internet;

a server computer, adapted to communicate with the client computer, the server computer being adapted to receive the transmitted image data over the Internet; and

an ink-jet printer adapted to receive the image data from the server computer and print directly on a confectionery product a high quality image that corresponds to the received image data.

44. (Original) A system according to Claim 43, wherein the client computer is operable to run Web browser software adapted to send and receive Hypertext Markup Language (HTML) forms over the World Wide Web.

45. (Previously Presented) A system according to Claim 43, wherein the ink-jet printer prints directly on the confectionery product using a dispersed pigment food-grade ink to obtain a printed image having resolution greater than 200 dpi even if printed using a single printhead and single pass printing.

46. (Original) A system according to Claim 45, wherein the ink-jet printer is a drop-on-demand ink-jet printer.

47. (Currently Amended) A system according to Claim 43, wherein the printed image has a resolution between 300 dpi and 1200 dpi.

48. (Previously Presented) A system for custom manufacturing a decorated confectionery product on the basis of instructions of a user, the system comprising:

a server computer adapted to:

communicate over a network with a client computer of the user,

receive over the network, from the client computer, image information submitted to the client computer by the user, and

communicate the received image information to an ink-jet printer to cause printing directly on the confectionery product of a high quality image that corresponds with the received image information.

49. (Original) A system according to Claim 48, wherein the network is the Internet and the client computer is operable to run Web browser software adapted to send and receive Hypertext Markup Language (HTML) forms over the World Wide Web.

50. (Original) A system according to Claim 48, wherein the network is a local area network.

51. (Previously Presented) A system according to Claim 48, wherein the ink-jet printer prints directly on the confectionery product using a dispersed pigment food-grade ink to obtain a printed image having resolution greater than 200 dpi even if printed using a single printhead and single pass printing.

52. (Original) A system according to Claim 51, wherein the ink-jet printer is a drop-on-demand ink-jet printer.

53. (Currently Amended) A system according to Claim 51, wherein the printed image has a resolution between 300 dpi and 1200 dpi.

54. (Previously Presented) A method on a server computer on a network for facilitating custom manufacturing of a decorated confectionery product on the basis of instructions of a user, the method comprising:

communicating over the network with a client computer of the user,

receiving over the network, from the client computer, image information submitted to the client computer by the user, and

communicating the received image information to an ink-jet printer to cause printing directly on the confectionery product of a high quality image that corresponds with the received image information.

55. (Original) A method according to Claim 54, wherein the network is the Internet and the client computer is operable to run Web browser software adapted to send and receive Hypertext Markup Language (HTML) forms over the World Wide Web.

56. (Original) A method according to Claim 54, wherein the network is a local area network.

57. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 54, wherein the ink-jet printer prints directly on the confectionery product using a dispersed pigment food-grade ink to obtain a printed image having resolution greater than 200 dpi even if printed using a single printhead and single pass printing.

58. (Original) A method according to Claim 57, wherein the ink-jet printer is a drop-on-demand ink-jet printer.

59. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 57, wherein the printed image has a resolution between 300 dpi and 1200 dpi.

60. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium storing executable code adapted to control a server computer on a network to perform a method for facilitating custom manufacturing of a decorated food product on the basis of instructions of a user, the method comprising:

communicating over the network with a client computer of the user,
receiving over the network, from the client computer, image information submitted to the client computer by the user, and

communicating the received image information to an ink-jet printer to cause printing directly on a confectionery product of a high quality image that corresponds with the received image information.

61. (Original) A computer-readable medium according to Claim 60, wherein the network is the Internet and the client computer is operable to run Web browser software adapted to send and receive Hypertext Markup Language (HTML) forms over the World Wide Web.

62. (Original) A computer-readable medium according to Claim 60, wherein the network is a local area network.

63. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium according to Claim 60, wherein the ink-jet printer prints directly on the confectionery product using a

dispersed pigment food-grade ink to obtain a printed image having resolution greater than 200 dpi even if printed using a single printhead and single pass printing.

64. (Original) A computer-readable medium according to Claim 63, wherein the ink-jet printer is a drop-on-demand ink-jet printer.

65. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium according to Claim 63, wherein the printed image has a resolution between 300 dpi and 1200 dpi.

66. – 82. (Cancelled).

83. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 31, further comprising a subsystem for holding the confectionery product transiently in position for printing.

84. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 37, further comprising the step of holding the confectionery product transiently in position for printing.

85. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 43, further comprising a subsystem for holding the confectionery product transiently in position for printing.

86. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 48, further comprising a subsystem for holding the confectionery product transiently in position for printing.

87. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 54, further comprising a subsystem for holding the confectionery product transiently in position for printing.